



Shenandoah University - Health & Life Sciences Building  
720 Wade Miller Dr, Winchester, VA 22601

Held: Zoom Meeting ID: 161 644 3629 Passcode: 278457

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1616443629?pwd=MkhkYkhpTHlOL3c4a2ZWdDlOYmZ0dz09>

## MEETING MINUTES

Attendance (17 present, 16 in-person, 1 virtually\*)

Avendano	Jonathan		Guzmán	C. Alexander*		Revilla	Emilio
Berry	Paul		Fierro Kelly	Jennifer		Sanchezconcha	Lyons
Chase	Jo-Ann		Kline-Gabel	Karina		Soto	Rodrigo
Clavijo	Wendy		Medina	Yahusef		Vega	Juan
De Silva	Joshua		Metzger	Ana		Watkins	Walewska
Espinoza	Juan		Patterson	Diana		Williams	Cecilia
Gamez	Astrid		Rimola	Sergio		Zelaya	Eduardo
	= present			= not present			= partial attendance

Administration's staff present: Gloria Senecal, Director of Board Administration

### 11:01 a.m. Call to Order and Introductory Remarks – Lyons Sanchezconcha, Chair of VLAB

Lyons Sanchezconcha welcomes all to Winchester and thanks Diana Patterson for hosting  
Diana Patterson introduces Shenandoah University President, Tracy Fitzsimmons

### 11:05 a.m. Shenandoah University Presentation and Student Panel - President Fitzsimmons

Brief history and background of Shenandoah University  
Introduces students in student panel and University professor  
Share background, "Why Shenandoah," and future aspirations  
Lyons thanks everyone, and maps out schedule for next couple of hours

### 11:30 a.m. Committee Breakouts & Working Lunch - Committee Sessions

Business & Workforce  
Education & Career Training  
Health  
Housing

### 1:00 p.m. Call General Session to Order – Lyons Sanchezconcha, Chair of VLAB

Roll call attendance taken, seventeen members present  
Alex Guzman is participating virtually

**1:05 p.m. Meeting Minutes and Meeting Agenda – Eduardo Zelaya , Secretary of VLAB**

January 20223 Minutes approved with change of: “Who” to “We”

motion by Jo-Ann Chase; second by Juan Vega

January 2023 Meeting Agenda adopted with changes to update times/speakers

motion by Rodrigo Soto; second by Wendy Clavijo

**1:16 p.m. Public Comment - Eduardo Zelaya, Secretary of VLAB**

No public comment

**1:15 p.m. Administrative Update – Gloria Senecal**

Gloria encourages VLAB members to:

1. Mileage should be rounded for logistic purposes
2. Keeping the recipes of hotels for the reimbursement
3. Bios and Headshots due by next friday
4. Sub-committees should centralize their informtion in folders so that she can keep VLAB documents in order
5. Gloria will send a follow up email to board members with more details/information for future logistic purposes
6. Confirm Participation for meetings so that the executive team and Gloria can have number participation for logistics/Food purposes

Chair, Announcing that Micheal Perez is the deputy director of DOI

**1:30 p.m. Listening Session Recap – Daiana Patterson**

Topics Discussed: Nutrition, housing, and language access (especially in the DMV of rural areas)

Notes: [Sharing the information talked during the listening session](#)

**1:42 p.m. Chair's Report – Lyons Sanchezconcha, Chair of VLAB**

Chair is asking board members to:

1. Draft their committee report ready by next meeting
2. Encouraging members to continuing their sub committee
3. Announcing the new Health Committee Chair, Astrid Gamez
4. Suggesting housing committee to incorportae housing and community development

**MOTION** Chair Lyons motioned to dedicate COVID-19 Certificate and Medal to Dr. Cecilia Barbosa, former VLAB Chair and Health Committee Chair; Second by Juan Espinoza

**MOTION** Chair Lyons motioned to rename the Housing Committee to House and Community Development Committee. Motion by Lyons; Second by Wendy Clavijo

Encourage VLAB Leadership, please let him know if your interested

Discuss and plan ahead for transition approaching on 06/30/23

**1:50 p.m. Guest Speakers**

**1:50 p.m. Jody Keenan, [State Director, Virginia SBDC](#) | [Presentation/Slide provided by JodyKeenan](#)**

**Areas of assistance:**

- Business Planning
- Strategic Planning
- Access to capital
- Marketing
- Social Media / Web Marketing
- Government Contracting
- Limited bilingual Assistance

### **Speciality Programs**

- Commercialization Assistance
- International Trade
- Growth Companies
- Craft Beverage
- Veterans
- Cybersecurity

Recommendations to have Virginia fund the SBDC programs/resources

### **2:20 p.m. Dr. Fawn-Amber Montoya, Board Chair, Scholars Latino Initiative**

SLI, is community based organization, not-for-profit organization dedicated to advancing latino post high school. [SLI Mission and Vision](#) | [Presentation by Dr. Fawn-Amber Montoya](#)

Recommendations to support college access programs that help under-represented communities have increased attainability to college

-break-

### **2:45 p.m. Carlos Manchego, Consul General de Peru**

#### **Consulado de Perú | Datos demográficos**

- Consul de Kentucky, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, and D.C.
- 1 millón de Peruanos en la Diáspora en USA
- Censo de 2015 - 58k peruanos concentrados en DMV
- Censo de 2020- 75k Peruanos Concentrados en DMV

The council's vision in the Peruvian community in the USA is to insure Peruvians keep their culture, this will allow the communities to learn from their culture.

The consul will like to create a coalition of consuls in the USA from different countries.

The idea will be to plan and share ideas to be prepared to best serve the community.

The coalition initiative started before the pandemic, but stopped and is restarting now.

### **3:05 p.m. Sergio de la Peña, Former Dep. Assistant Sec. of Defence for Western Hemisphere Affairs**

Southern Border Security Challenges and Impacts | [Presentation by Sergio de La Pena](#)

**Challenges:** Drug Cartels, Drugs, Contraband, and State Control

**Impacts:** Increased flows of immigrants, increased drug flows, and potential terrorist acts

Highlighting the statistics in overdosed deaths are 2.7K in Virginia.

**Recommendations:** The Biden administration should arrange a dialogue with the Mexican president, AMLO to talk about potential plans that involve safe migration of people from different countries that cross the Mexican border, and Virginia should consider responding to the fentanyl crisis.

### **3:45 p.m. Committee Reports**

#### **3:45 p.m. Business – Diana Patterson, Chair**

**Provide** state funding to the Virginia Small Business Development Center - \$1M for 2 years

**Support and expand** the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) Transit Ridership Incentive Program (TRIP)

**Lobby** the execution of the federal Freedom to Move Act

**Marketing & Communications plan** to better disseminate information about state resources, both to the community and internally within state departments | Tip Line for Hispanic community

**Authorize** VA boards to offer professional and occupational licenses for immigrants and foreign professionals.

**Allow** (unauthorized) immigrant business owners apply for ABC license. Although state governments regulate professional licenses through state licensing boards, under federal law, professional licenses cannot be extended to undocumented immigrants unless states affirmatively opt out of such federal restrictions by enacting legislation to provide for eligibility.[1]

Opt out of USC 8 Section 1621 - any grant, contract, loan, professional license, or commercial license provided by an agency of a State or local government or by appropriated funds of a State or local government

**3:48 p.m. Health – Astrid Gamez- Chair.**

The committee priorities for 2023 are:

1) Fentanyl epidemic in Virginia: Will recommend outreach and education to parents and teachers

2) Healthcare prevention related to common elderly diseases such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's

3) Mental health resources for the Latino community in line with "Right Help, Right Now"

The committee is planning in having a meeting in Northern Virginia prior to May full board meeting

4) Training to School administrators, teachers and parents.

**3:52 p.m. Housing and Community Development– Rodrigo Soto - Reporting**

Housing and Community Development

- -Recommendation to increase Housing Trust Fund to levels proposed in the outgoing budget from the previous administration
- -Recommendation to fund education programs around homeownership
- -Recommendation regarding funding for rental vouchers
- -Committee will meet virtually in April to internally approve our recommendations ahead of May VLAB meeting

**3:56 p.m. Education and Workforce – Yahusef Medina - Reporting**

Still finalizing recommendations but focusing on funding for ELL students

Looking at college access and attainability measures

Continuing on 2022 recommendations in line with Secretary's initiatives

Committee heard from [Opportunity Scholars Program](#)

**3:59 p.m. Board Discussion and New Business – Lyons Sanchezconcha, Chair of VLAB**

Tabled until next meeting due to time constraints

Wendy recommends fewer speakers to make more time for board discussion/questions

We will adjust accordingly for the board meetings going forward

**4:00 p.m. Closing Remarks and Announcements – Lyons Sanchezconcha, Chair of VLAB**

Lyons moved to adjourn, Rodrigo seconded, motion passed unanimously.